# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI ST. LOUIS DIVISION

) Case No. 20-43378-399 ) Chapter 7
) Motion for Civil Contempt )
)
) Response Due: February 1, 2021
) Hearing Date: February 8, 2021
) Hearing Time: 10:00 AM
) Location: Eagleton Courthouse
) 111 South Tenth Street
) Floor 7, North Courtroom
) St. Louis, Missouri 63102
)

## **MOTION FOR CIVIL CONTEMPT ORDER & NOTICE OF HEARING**

THIS MOTION SEEKS AN ORDER THAT MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE MOVING PARTY TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE. IF YOU AND THE MOVING PARTY CANNOT AGREE, YOU MUST FILE A RESPONSE AND SEND A COPY TO THE MOVING PARTY. YOU MUST FILE AND SERVE YOUR RESPONSE BY February 1, 2021.

YOUR RESPONSE MUST STATE WHY THE MOTION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. IF YOU DO NOT FILE A TIMELY RESPONSE, THE RELIEF MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION AND HAVE NOT REACHED AN AGREEMENT, YOU MUST ATTEND THE HEARING. THE DATE IS SET OUT ABOVE. UNLESS THE PARTIES AGREE OTHERWISE, THE COURT MAY CONSIDER EVIDENCE AT THE HEARING AND MAY DECIDE THE MOTION AT THE HEARING.

### REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEYS.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a hearing will be held on the Motion on <u>February</u> **8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in North Courtroom on Floor 7 by the Honorable Judge Kathy A. Surratt-States at the Thomas F. Eagleton United States Courthouse, 111 South Tenth Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102.

Comes now D. Matthew Edwards, Trustee, herein and for this motion states as

#### follows:

- 1. That he is the duly appointed, qualified and acting Trustee for the Bankruptcy Estate of the above-named Debtor.
- 2. On or about July 2, 2020, Latesha Renee Ross (Debtor) filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 7.
- 3. Trustee brings this motion in accordance with the provisions of 11 U.S.C. §§ 521 & 541 and FRBP 4002, 7001 and 9020. This motion is a proceeding to find the Debtor in contempt of this Court's order compelling Debtor to deliver documents to the Trustee and accordingly may be prosecuted as a motion as opposed to an adversary proceeding pursuant to FRBP 7001.
- 4. The meeting of creditors was held on August 13, 2020. At that time, Debtor was requested to provide the following document(s):
  - a. Bank statements for all accounts verifying balance(s) on the date of filing.
  - b. Debtor reported a potential personal injury claim, but that the attorney she had previously selected was withdrawing from the case. Debtor was requested to obtain and provide a copy of personal injury claim file to Trustee for review and possible referral to new counsel for prosecution.
- Thereafter, Trustee made multiple written requests for turnover of the documents to Debtor's counsel. Debtor did not comply with said requests for turnover of the documents.
- 6. Trustee obtained the attached order from this Court dated October 16, 2020 compelling Debtor to turnover the documents. Following this Court's order, Trustee made multiple written requests and telephone calls to Debtor's counsel regarding the requested documents. To date, the documents have not been provided.
- 7. Debtor has failed to comply with this Court's order and the Trustee's reasonable requests for the above stated evidence. Accordingly, this Court should enter its order finding that the Debtor is in contempt of this Court's order and impose the following sanctions:
  - Order Debtor to pay Trustee the sum of \$300.00 as and for fees and expenses due to Debtor's failure to comply with Trustee's requests and this Court's order; and

b. Should Debtor fail to turnover the requested documents within fourteen (14) days of this Court's order finding Debtor in contempt, grant Trustee leave to bring an adversary proceeding to revoke Debtor's Chapter 7 discharge and permit Trustee to obtain a judgment against Debtor to recover all court costs, fees and expenses incurred.

WHEREFORE, the Trustee respectfully requests that the Court enter its order finding Debtor in contempt for failing to deliver to the Trustee the above stated documents in accordance with this Court's prior order, to order Debtor to pay Trustee the sum of \$300.00 as and for fees and expenses due to Debtor's failure to comply with the Trustee's requests and this Court's order; to order that Trustee is permitted leave to file an adversary proceeding against Debtor seeking to revoke Debtor's Chapter 7 discharge and request entry of a judgment recover all court costs, fees and expenses incurred should Debtor fail to turnover the requested documents within fourteen (14) days of this Court's order finding Debtor in contempt; and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just in the premises.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: December 29, 2020 /s/D. Matthew Edwards\_

D. Matthew Edwards
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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was filed electronically with the United States Bankruptcy Court, and has been served by Regular United States Mail Service, first class, postage fully pre-paid, address to those parties listed on the Court's Manual Notice List and listed below on December 29, 2020.

U.S. Trustee's Office 111 S 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 6353 St. Louis, MO 63102 Latesha Renee Ross 10130 Chaucer Ave. Apt. C St. Louis, MO 63114 DEBTOR

Douglas M. Heagler 901 Boones Lick Rd. Saint Charles, MO 63301 ATTORNEY FOR DEBTOR

/s/D. Matthew Edwards